

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 /077 W

----- 021899

P R 081400Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4200

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTRYE

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILL

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 25

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MZ

SUBJECT: MACHEL'S NEW YEAR'S SPEECHES ON DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIE

S

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 023

SUMMARY; PRESIDENT MACHEL DELIVERED NEW YEAR'S SPEECHES ON DEC
31 AND JAN 5 REITERATING GENELAL THRUST OF MOZAMBIQUE'S DOMESTIC

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AND FOREIGN IOLICIES. FIRST SPEECH FOCUSED ON DOMESTIC PROBLEMS

AND ISSUES; SECOND WAS TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS ON FOREIGN POLICY. WHILE MACHEL DID NOT COVER FRESH GROUND IN UNREMARKABLE SPEECH ON DOMESTIC ISSUES, IN DIPLOMATIC ARENAS HE SEEMED TO HINT OF POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS IN RELATIONS WITH NON-SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. MOST NOTEWORTHY ASPECT OF BOTH SPEECHES, HOWEVER, WAS RELATIVELY LOW KEY MANNER, UNCHARACTERISTIC FOR MACHEL, IN WHICH THEY WERE DELIVERED. END SUMMARY.

1. IN DECEMBER 31 SPEECH TO NATION, WHICH MACHEL READ IN VERY LOW KEY FROM HIS OFFICE, PRESIDENT REVIEWED DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME AND OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTSS SINCE JUNE 25 INDEPENDENCE, SOBERLY RECITED NUMBER PROBLEMS FACING COUNTRY, STRESSED NEED FOR CREATION OF "NEW MENTALITY" WITH WHICH TO ADDRESS THESE PROBLEMS, WARNED OF CONTINUED INFILTRATION INTO PEOPLE'S RANKS BY OMNIPRESENT "ENEMY" BENT ON PREVENTING AND SABOTAGING PEOPLE'S GAIN (STATING ARMED FORCES ARE PRINCIPAL TARGET), AND URGED MOZAMBICANS TO COUPLE HARD WORK WITH CONTINUED VIGILANCE AS THEY ENTERED THEIR FIRST FULL YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE.

2. IN JANUARY 5 SPEECH TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS SUBSEQUENTLY BROADCAST TO NATION, MACHEL REVIEWED 1975 FOREIGN DEVELOPMENTS AND OUTLINED GENERAL GRPRM POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO MOZAMBIQUE, I.E., INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE, ANGOLA, NAMIBIA, TIMOR, REUNIFICATION OF KOREAS AND TAIWAN. MACHEL CALLED 1975 "A YEAR OF VICTORIES FOR THE PEOPLE," ESPECIALLY THOSE OF FORMER PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS, AND MOZAMBIQUE'S "COMRADES" IN VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA. 1975 WOULD THUS BE REMEMBERED AS "A YEAR OF DECISIVE SUCCESS FOR THE FORCES OF NATIONAL LIBERATION AND INDEPENDENCE AND THE FORCES FOR ESTABLISHING A NEW ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ORDER ON THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL."

A. TURNING TO SPECIFIC PROBLEM AREAS, MACHEL CONDEMNED INCREASING BIG POWER ACTIVITY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN; "AGAINST UNANIMOUS WISHES TO COUNTRIES ALONG INDIAN OCEAN, FOREIGN BASED AGGRESSION HAS BEEN INSTALLED. THE INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR ARMS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, THE SPREADING OF BASES IN MAYOTTE, DIEGO GARCIA AND DJIBOUTI NEITHER CORRESPONDS TO THE INTERESTS OF THE COASTAL STATES, NOR THOSE OF HUMANITY. THESE BASES THREATEN THE PEACE AND SECURITY

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OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AND CONSTITUTE A DANGER TO THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE ZONE."

B. SURPRISINGLY MODERATE PARAGRAPH ON ANGOLA WAS REPORTED IN LM 023.

3. ON OTHER SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES, MACHEL ACKNOWLEDGED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR SWAPO IN NAMIBIA, WANTED THE SMITH REGIME ABOUT "CONTINUED AGGRESSION" AGAINST MOZAMBIQUE AND REAFFIRMED

SUPPORT FOR THE "JUST STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE." ON OTHER GLOBAL ISSUES, MACHEL HOPED THAT DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR EAST UNDER FRETILIN WOULD ACHIEVE SUCCESS IN ITS CURRENT STRUGGLE.

4. PASSAGES THAT CAUGHT ATTENTION OF MOST DIPLOMATIC GUESTS, HOWEVER, WERE FOLLOWING; A. "IN THE NAME OF THE MOZAMBICAN PEOPLE, IN THE NAME OF OUR GOVERNMENT, WE WISH TO GREET YOU FOR THE FIRST NEW YEAR THAT WE HAVE CELEBRATED IN THE FREE TERRITORY OF THE POPULAR REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE. MAHY OF YOU WERE WITH US IN OUR DIFFICULT HOURS. OTHERS WERE SEPARATED FROM US BY PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM. THE DEFEAT OF PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM FREED THOSE OTHERS FROM THE OBSTACLES WHICH IMPEDED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES. TO ALL WE REPEAT WITH FRIENDSHIP: BE WELCOME IN THE FREE COUNTRY OF MOZAMBIQUE. TO ALL WE ASK THAT YOU TRANSMIT TO YOUR PEOPLE, TO YOUR GOVERNMENTS, TO YOUR RESPECTIVE HEADS OF STATE OUR MOST FRATERNAL WISHES OF FRIENDSHIP, PROSPERITY, COOPERATION AND PEACE." B. "IMPERIALISTIC COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS ARE TODAY THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO RESOLUTION OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, IT IS OUR SINCERE DESIRE TO ESTABLISH AND CONSOLIDATE FRUITFUL AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ALL STATES, INDEPENDENT OF THEIR SOCIAL REGIMES, WITH THE EXCEPTION, WHICH IS EVIDENT, OF THE RACIST STATES, IN WHICH THERE ARE GROSS VIOLATIONS OF ESSENTIAL RIGHTS OF MAN." MACHEL NOTED THAT IN THE MONTHS SINCE INDEPENDENCE GPRM HAD "ALREADY SIGNED NUMEROUS AGREEMENTS WHICH HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE RESOLUTION OF SERIOUS PROBLEMS THAT WE CONFRONT IN ORDER REMOVE OUR PEOPLE FROM MISERY, IGNORANCE AND SICKNESS;" ADDING THAT "WITH MANY OF YOUR STATES WE EXPECT IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW AGREEMENTS THAT WILL STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF MOZAMBIQUE TO DEVELOP." COMMENT: MOST SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF BOTH MACHEL'S SPEECHES WAS RELATIVELY MODERATE, SOBER AND LOW KEY TONE IN WHICH THEY WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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DELIVERED. SINCE HIS TRIUMPHAL RETURN TO MOZAMBIQUE LAST JUNE, HIS SPEECHES AND BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY FIERY, FORCEFUL AND OFTEN THREATENING RHETORIC. FACT JANUARY 5 SPEECH WAS BEFORE DIPLOMATIC CORPS MAY IN PART EXPLAIN HIS MODERATION IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, BUT DECEMBER 31 SPEECH WAS NOT SUBJECT TO SUCH LIMITATION, WHILE WE CAN NEITHER EXPLAIN CHANGE TO OUR SATISFACTION NOR FORECAST HOW LONG MACHEL MIGHT REMAIN "MODERATE", IT POSSIBLE THAT STILL NOT FULLY EXPLAINED DISTURBANCES OF DECEMBER 17-19 HAVE HAD A SOBERING EFFECT. OF EQUAL INTEREST WERE MACHEL'S HINTS AS TO PROSPECTIVE IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS WITH NON-SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. IN CONVERSATIONS SINCE SPEECH, VARIOUS AFRICAN AND SOCIALIST DIPLOMATS, INCLUDING EAST GERMAN, HAVE POINTED TO THESE PASSAGES AS AUGURING INCREASED INTEREST OF GPRM IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES IN GENERAL AND US IN PARTICULAR. THIS, OF COURSE,

REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LOUREN00025
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760007-0159
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760176/aaaacppr.tel
Line Count: 171
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LOURENCO MARQUES 23
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MACHEL'S NEW YEAR'S SPEECHES ON DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIE S
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MZ, (MACHEL, SAMORA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006